

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 233517 TOSEC 140065

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:HFMATTHEWS:PM

APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

NEA:HNSAUNDERS

S/S:RKUCHEL

S: LPBREMER(SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 233517 TOSEC 140065

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: PFOR, EG

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM - ATTENDANCE AT EGYPTIAN  
OCTOBER 6 CELEBRATIONS AND RETURN OF AMBASSADOR EILTS

(S/S NO.7519345 )

REFS:CAIRO 9708, CAIRO 9720

1. THE PROBLEM

AMBASSADOR EILTS HAS ASKED FOR GUIDANCE ON THE QUESTION OF  
ATTENDANCE AT THE EGYPTIAN OCTOBER 6 CELEBRATIONS (CAIRO  
9708). HE ALSO REPORTS THAT WHEN HE TOLD FAHMY OF YOUR  
DESIRE THAT HE BE BACK IN WASHINGTON TO MEET WITH YOU FRI-  
DAY, OCTOBER 3, FAHMY RESPONDED THAT HE MIGHT NOT HAVE  
SADAT'S REACTIONS TO OUR PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR HIS VISIT IN  
TIME TO GIVE THEM TO EILTS BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE ON THURS-  
DAY MORNING. FAHMY URGED THAT EILTS DELAY HIS DEPARTURE  
A DAY OR SO IF SADAT'S REACTIONS WERE NOT AVAILABLE BEFORE  
EILTS' SCHEDULED DEPARTURE.

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SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 233517 TOSEC 140065

## 2. BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

WITH REGARD TO THE OCTOBER 6 CELEBRATIONS, YOU MAY RECALL THAT LAST YEAR THE EGYPTIANS ISSUED INVITATIONS IN CAIRO AND THEIR EMBASSIES ABROAD FOR CEREMONIES TO CELEBRATE QUOTE VICTORY DAY UNQUOTE OR QUOTE VICTORY OVER ISRAEL

DAY UNQUOTE. IN VIEW OF THE WAY THE INVITATIONS WERE CAST, EILTS WAS INSTRUCTED NOT TO ATTEND THE CELEBRATIONS IN CAIRO AND TO BE REPRESENTED BY A LOW LEVEL MILITARY ATTACHE. THE EGYPTIANS WERE UNHAPPY OVER EILTS' ABSENCE. THIS YEAR OCTOBER 6 IS CALLED QUOTE ARMED FORCES DAY UNQUOTE BY THE EGYPTIANS AND INVITATIONS HAVE GONE OUT WITH THIS LABEL ON THEM. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THIS WILL BE AN ANNUAL HOLIDAY. EILTS NOTES THAT HE WILL PROBABLY NOT BE IN CAIRO ON OCTOBER 6 AND ASKS FOR GUIDANCE AS TO WHETHER DCM MAESTRONE SHOULD ATTEND AS CHARGE. WE RECOMMEND THAT WE TREAT THE OCTOBER 6 CELEBRATIONS AS WE WOULD ANY OTHER ARMED FORCES DAY AND THAT ATTENDANCE BY THE AMBASSADOR OR THE CHARGE AND BY THE DEFENSE ATTACHE WOULD BE ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE. HERE IN WASHINGTON WE RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT BE REPRESENTED AT THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEVEL AND THAT DOD BE REPRESENTED AS IT NORMALLY WOULD AT ARMED FORCES DAY CELEBRATIONS.

3. WITH REGARD TO EILTS' RETURN ON CONSULTATION, FAHMY BELIEVES THAT EILTS SHOULD DELAY HIS DEPARTURE IF NECESSARY IN ORDER TO RECEIVE SADAT'S COMMENTS ON OUR PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR HIS VISIT. FAHMY SAYS ANOTHER REASON FOR DELAYING A DAY OR SO WOULD BE THAT SADAT AND HE WOULD LIKE FIRST TO HAVE A REPORT ON YOUR MEETING TODAY WITH KHADDAM. FAHMY BELIEVES THE ARABS ARE LIKELY TO SPECULATE THAT EILTS' TRIP HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH KHADDAM'S VISIT AND POSSIBLE GOLAN NEGOTIATIONS.

4. WE BELIEVE THAT EILTS' CONSULTATION HERE WOULD BE MUCH MORE FRUITFUL IF HE COULD RECEIVE AT FIRSTHAND SADAT'S REACTIONS TO OUR PROGRAM. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT EILTS BE INSTRUCTED TO DELAY HIS DEPARTURE A DAY OR SO IF NECESSARY TO RECEIVE SADAT'S VIEWS.

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SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 233517 TOSEC 140065

## 5. RECOMMENDATION

THAT YOU SIGN THE ATTACHED TELEGRAM TELLING EILTS HE OR THE CHARGE AND THE DEFENSE ATTACHE SHOULD ATTEND THE OCTOBER 6 CELEBRATIONS AND THAT HE SHOULD DELAY HIS DEPARTURE FOR CONSULTATIONS A DAY OR SO IF NECESSARY TO OBTAIN SADAT'S REACTIONS TO THE PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR HIS VISIT.

ATTACHMENT - TELEGRAM TO CAIRO

SECRET/NODIS/CHEROKEE

SUBJECT: ATTENDANCE AT OCTOBER 6 CELEBRATIONS AND YOUR  
RETURN

REF: CAIRO 9708 AND CAIRO 9720

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

IN VIEW OF FACTS THAT OCTOBER 6 CELEBRATIONS ARE DESIGNATED OFFICIALLY BY GOE AS ARMED FORCES DAY AND THAT THIS WILL BE AN ANNUAL OFFICIAL HOLIDAY, WE BELIEVE THE CELEBRATIONS SHOULD BE TREATED AS ANY OTHER ARMED FORCES DAY. THEREFORE, YOU OR CHARGE AS WELL AS DEFENSE ATTACHE SHOULD ATTEND THE CELEBRATIONS. FYI: IN WASHINGTON, DEPARTMENT WILL BE REPRESENTED AT ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEVEL AND DOD WILL BE GUIDED BY ITS NORMAL PROCEDURES FOR A FOREIGN ARMED FORCES DAY RECEPTION. END FYI.

I AGREE WITH FAHMY THAT YOUR CONSULTATION WOULD BENEFIT FROM HAVING SADAT'S REACTION TO OUR PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR HIS VISIT. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED SADAT'S VIEWS BY WEDNESDAY EVENING, YOU SHOULD POSTPONE YOUR DEPARTURE FOR A DAY OR SO SO THAT YOU MAY RECEIVE THEM. PLEASE ADVISE ETA.

INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TOSEC, INSTRUCTIONS, CAT-A, VISITS, REPRESENTATION AT CEREMONIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE233517  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** HFMATTHEWS:PM  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** N750004-0726  
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**Office:** ORIGIN NODS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Reference:** 75 CAIRO 9708, 75 CAIRO 9720  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <24 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** LOCK1  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ACTION MEMORANDUM - ATTENDANCE AT EGYPTIAN OCTOBER 6 CELEBRATIONS AND RETURN OF AMBASSADOR EILTS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, EG, US, (EILTS, HERMANN F), (MAESTRONE)  
**To:** SECRETARY  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006